

Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, November 2, 2020

via Zoom

In Attendance: Beverly Jansen, Dave Avrin, Jess Fox, Karen Vastola, Anthony Giaccio, Nana Welch

Meeting began at 7pm

October Minutes were approved virtually.

Village BOT has approved requested changes to SHEAC Board. Effective immediately Jessica Fox is the new Co-chair. Karen Vastola is a new Board Member. Congratulation to all.

Per Anthony Giaccio, village grant for improved food scrap publicity/education remains on hold.

Fremont Pond water quality improvement grant also remains on hold.

Jessica Fox discussed some ongoing expansion of village pollinator pathway sites within the village.

Leaf bagging - Initiating a village policy on leaf bagging will almost certainly be controversial. SHEAC may want to advise the BOT on the value of encouraging people to bag their leaves. Will be hard to get buy in from the whole community due to cost. Anthony Giaccio suggests picking a date and from that date forward, all leaves will need to be bagged. Jessica Fox said that many municipalities are phasing out leaf blowers. The Manors do not have enforced leaf bagging because they have many more leaves than Inner Village/Webber Park where bagging is enforced. Another solution for the leaves is to leave them there as mulch. Do not leave them on the lawn but in all the other areas of your garden.

Walkability - Dan sent update. Is Clinton Street a new village initiative? Anthony Giaccio- yes - Bridgeview and Hudson Anchor have come to the board to talk about speeding. Village has a speed hump policy that does not allow for bumps on main thoroughfare. Instead they are looking at a raised walk on the west side of Beekman and Clinton. Two raised crosswalks to naturally slow cars down.

Anthony Giaccio - DOT is working on the crosswalk at the Dutch Church - they are supposed to put pedestrian signal at the crosswalk. The village applied for a grant to design the Riverwalk/sidewalk leading from Philipse Manor into Sleepy Hollow manor. Pandemic stopped things, but it may still go through.

Anthony Giaccio - Village has hired a dynamic Landscape Architect to design a natural buffer along Pocantico River. SHEAC asked to participate in the public involvement part of the project.

Karen Vastola - will the crosswalks on Beekman Ave. be re-sprayed? They are starting to fade. Anthony Giaccio will look into it. The crosswalks and light at Washington and Beekman will be improved in the spring. Work at Pocantico, Lawrence and Continental (regarding crosswalks) will be discussed in the spring. Permits for the sidewalk project come from the DOT.

Proposal from Westchester regarding expansion of food scrap program. The county has a new contract with suburban carting. Possibility of Sleepy Hollow doing food scrap program alone with our own pick up location. There would be more buy in with a closer drop off location in Sleepy Hollow. The challenge would be finding a

location and what the additional cost to the village would be. Curbside pick-up not an option yet. Discussed potential locations for drop-off. Will be on the next work session.

Next SHEAC meeting will be Dec 12, 7 pm.